

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are now pending in the application. The amendments to the claims contained herein are intended to broaden the scope thereof and, thus, are not a narrowing amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein, as well as the Preliminary Amendment filed on August 24, 2004.

Applicant further amends Claims 4, 10 and 14 to eliminate the term (not related to the accompaniment, such as melody parts)" and add "other performing parts, which is not related to an accompaniment,". This is because the applicant considers that the term "such as" may be interpreted in a limited manner and may not be appropriate as the claim language. In addition, the applicant considers the term "other performing parts" must be clearly defined not to be related to the general accompaniment.

Applicant believes that the arguments set forth for Claims 1 and 7 also apply to Claims 13 and 17, that is, a method claim and a recording media claim regarding the apparatus of Claim 7. As indicated in the previous amendment, both of Suzuki and Matsuda fail to teach or indicate the point of claim 7 in which the tone pitch of the constituent part regarding the accompaniment in the block, which is moved into the performance data window, is automatically modified to suit the chord information previously assigned to the chord sequence in the performance data window, and the length of the constituent part regarding the accompaniment is automatically adjusted to suit the specific part of the user's performance data.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this Supplemental Amendment and the Preliminary Amendment filed on August 24, 2004 is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:

Nov 15, 2004

By:

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